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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## Village to Conduct Fire Hydrant Flushing During April

CANAL WINCHESTER – Canal Winchester’s water department staff opens fire hydrants around the community each year during its fire hydrant flushing schedule. This allows water to flow through pipes, which enhances water quality by flushing sediment from mainline pipes, verifies proper operation of hydrants and valves, and maintains firefighting capabilities. This year’s fire hydrant flushing will take place between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday – Friday, from April 1 – April 30.

“Our hydrant flushing program is an integral part of our ongoing effort to deliver the safest and highest-quality water possible,” said Joe Taylor, water department manager for the Village of Canal Winchester. “This process is very important to our water system and we appreciate the cooperation of our residents while we perform this necessary flushing.”

The water department offers these tips for when crews are flushing hydrants in your area:

- If you see a hydrant being flushed on your street, avoid running tap water, your washing machine or your dishwasher until flushing in your area is complete.
- If you see hydrant flushing crews working, please drive carefully and treat them like any other road construction crew.

During or immediately after hydrant flushing, tap water may come out with sediment that causes discoloration. Although a slight discoloration may last for a few hours, it does not affect the taste or quality of the water. This discoloration only affects the appearance of the water and poses no health threat.

Should you experience discoloration or other side effects from hydrant flushing, the water department suggests the following:

- If you encounter discolored water, shut your water off and wait several minutes. After waiting, check the clarity by running cold water for a few minutes to allow new water to flow into your pipes. If the water is still discolored, wait a few minutes and check again. In some cases, it may be a few hours before the water is completely clear.
- Avoid washing laundry during scheduled flushing hours. After hydrants in your area have been flushed, wait until water runs clear from your tap, then begin with a load of dark laundry before doing lights or whites.
- If water pressure or volume seems low, check your faucet screens for trapped particles.

Any questions or concerns about the fire hydrant flushing program may be directed to Canal Winchester’s water department at 614-837-5623.

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